UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,781	01/05/2001	Craig S. Skinner	PALM-3551.US.P	3204

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EXAMINER
CHEN, ALAN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2182	

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/755,781	SKINNER, CRAIG S.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alan S. Chen	2182	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 October 2006*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-11 and 13-20* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-11 and 13-20* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *10 October 2006* is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

   1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office

action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since

this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee

set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has

been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/11/2006

has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
> another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent
> granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the
> applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
> 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States
> only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2)
> of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1-4,6-11 and 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by US Pat. No. 6,961,567 to Kuhn *(cited in the IDS)*.

4.   Per claim 1, Kuhn discloses a communications network automated registration

and activation system *(Fig. 2 shows the system, Fig. 3 shows the activation and*

registration framework) comprising: a processor for processing information *(Fig. 2,*

element 110) and instructions including network configuration information utilized by

said processor *(Column 4, lines 4-6 disclose memory, element 120, as storing operating system, data and applications executed by processor; Column 5, lines 20-Column 6, lines 6 disclose the drivers/instructions for the activation and registration of network beings stored in element 120)* to automatically configure without user interference a device for communicating on a communication network with automated registration and activation on said communication network when booted up *(Fig. 4 and 5 show the method of automated registration and activation without need for user input)* by forwarding a network unit device identifier *(Fig. 3, element 208 is the registration file which gives the information about the user device; it should be noted that several other elements can be construed to be the network unit device identifier, for instance, in Fig. 4, element 301, determining network activation would intrinsically require a network address that corresponds to the network device, e.g., a MAC address)*; a network interface component for communicating information to and from other devices *(Fig. 2, element 140, wireless network interface communicates with other devices)*, said network interface component coupled to said processor *(Fig. 2, element 110 and 140, processor is coupled to wireless interface)*; a read only memory for storing static information and instructions including said network configuration information *(Fig. 2, element 120; Column 6, lines 5-6 disclose memory device being ROM, which is static storage)*; said read only memory is coupled to said processor *(Fig. 2, element 110 and 120 are coupled)*; a data bus for communicating information between said processor and said read only memory, said data bus coupled to said processor *(Fig. 2, element 155)*; and a handwriting recognition pad for inputting information other than network

configuration information for recognition by said processor *(Fig. 1, element 12 shows*

handwriting pad).

5.   Per claim 2, Kuhn discloses claim 1, Kuhn further discloses the network

configuration information includes a network unit identifier *(Fig. 3, element 208, the*

registration file contains information about the user and device in order to be compatible

with a carrier; note, 'network unit identifier' is construed to be much broader and not

equivalent to 'network unit device identifier').

6.   Per claims 3 and 4, Kuhn discloses claim 2, Kuhn further discloses the processor

forwarding said communication network unit identifier to a communication network when

a communication application is open *(Column 5, lines 33-42, device driver, element 202*

which uses the registration file, is launched when user uses an application on the PDA);

Kuhn further discloses the network unit identifier being an access number *(Column 7,*

lines 16+ discloses carrier being a cell phone networks, requiring access number from

the PDA).

7.   Per claim 6, Kuhn discloses claim 1, Kuhn further discloses exchanging

information between the network and PDA to configure the PDA for communication with

the wireless service provider *(Fig. 5A).*

8.   Per claim 7, Kuhn discloses claim 1, Kuhn further discloses having a transmitter

and receiver *(Fig. 2, element 140)* for communications over the cellular network

(Column 7, lines 16+) and an antenna coupled to the transceiver for transmitting and

receiving radio signals from the cellular network *(Fig. 2).*

9.   Per claims 8-11,13 and 14, claims 1-4,6 and 7 are significantly similar, and

therefore the rejection of claims 1-4,6 and 7 is applied accordingly.

10.   Per claim 15, Kuhn discloses a communication network device configuration

method *(Figs. 4 and 5)* comprising the steps of: storing communication network

configuration information in a memory *(Fig. 2, element 120, instructions for*

communicating with network stored in ROM); using said communication network

configuration information to automatically configure without user interference a

communication device for communicating with a communication network when booted

up by forwarding a network unit device identifier *(Fig. 5A shows automatically*

configuring device for communication with network, the registration file is forwarded to

enable communications; note, there is no restriction in the claim language as to where

the identifier is forwarded to or from); and registering and activating said device

automatically on a communication network *(Fig. 5B, element 43 and 432, registration*

and activation are all done automatically) .

11.   Per claim 16, Kuhn discloses claim 15, Kuhn further disclosing registration and

activation on a communication network *(Column 7, lines 15-27)*.

12.   Per claim 17, Kuhn discloses claim 15, Kuhn further said network configuration

information includes a network unit device identifier *(Column 6, lines 55-65, account*

identification is one of the items stored in ROM for the driver device, containing network

configuration information).

13.   Per claim 18, Kuhn discloses claim 15, Kuhn further discloses that the activation

and registration framework is generic for the express purpose of reducing complexity for

the user by incorporating registration and activation preloaded by the manufacturer *(see Background and Summary)*.

14.   Per claim 19, Kuhn discloses claim 15, Kuhn further disclosing the processor using the network configuration information to automatically configure the device for communication on a network *(Fig. 2, element 110 executes operations shown in Figs. 4 and 5)*.

15.   Per claim 20, Kuhn discloses claim 15, Kuhn further disclosing the network configuration information includes an access number *(Column 7, lines 16+ discloses carrier being a cell phone networks, requiring access number from the PDA)*.

Conclusion

16.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alan S. Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-4143. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim N. Huynh can be reached on 571-272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ASC
12/05/2006